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SENATE MEMORIAL 103

49TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2009

INTRODUCED BY

Lynda M. Lovejoy

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE PUBLIC REGULATION COMMISSION TO DEVELOP AND
ADOPT ADMINISTRATIVE OPERATING PROCEDURES TO ENSURE
ACCOUNTABILITY, CONSISTENCY AND THE EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE USE
OF PUBLIC RESOURCES.

WHEREAS, the constitution of New Mexico creates the public
regulation commission and establishes its responsibility to
charter and regulate business corporations as provided by the
legislature; and

WHEREAS, the responsibility of the elected commissioners
is to carry out the charge of the commission as specified in
the constitution and the statutes of New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, the general powers and duties of the public
regulation commission as elaborated in statute specify that the
commission may organize into organizational units as necessary

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1 to enable it to function most efficiently and to appoint and
2 employ such professional, technical and clerical assistance as
3 it deems necessary to assist it in performing its powers and
4 duties; and

5 WHEREAS, the public regulation commission is currently
6 organized into administrative services, consumer relations,
7 fire marshal, insurance, legal, transportation and utility
8 divisions; offices of the general counsel, hearing examiners
9 and public information; and a corporations bureau; and

10 WHEREAS, the individual and collective responsibility of
11 the commissioners is rooted in the obligation to protect the
12 best interests of the public, whom they ultimately serve; and

13 WHEREAS, this very serious responsibility necessarily
14 demands the careful attention and consideration of the
15 commissioners and precludes the ability to oversee the day-to-
16 day activities of the staff; and

17 WHEREAS, in organizations as complex and important as the
18 public regulation commission, written operating procedures
19 commonly guide the day-to-day activities of the commission and
20 the staff and serve to promote accountability, efficiency,
21 effectiveness and consistency of operations;

22 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
23 OF NEW MEXICO that the public regulation commission be
24 requested to develop and adopt administrative operating
25 procedures to ensure accountability, consistency and the

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1 efficient and effective use of public resources; and

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the commissioners consider the
3 structure and accountability measures undertaken by the public
4 education commission as a model for these procedures; and

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these operating procedures
6 clearly specify the responsibility for hiring, firing and
7 supervising staff; the coordination of activities between
8 divisions, offices and bureaus; the development and management
9 of a budget; and the conduct of meetings; and

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the completion and
11 implementation of these operating procedures be reviewed by the
12 appropriate interim legislative committee as appointed by the
13 New Mexico legislative council; and

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
15 transmitted to the members of the public regulation commission
16 and the co-chairs of the New Mexico legislative council.

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